

MINUTES OF THE
SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2005

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montano called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montano led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present:

Chair Eleanor R. Montano
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Frank Bacio
Vito Cannella
John Hammargren
Carl Moore

Absent

James Cragin
Michael Russell

Others Present

B. Eugene Romig, Chief Commission
Services
Sherry Scates, Commission Staff

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2005

On motion of Commissioner Cannella, seconded by Commissioner Moore and unanimously carried, the minutes of February 2, 2005 were approved as submitted.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Montano and Commissioners thanked Gene Romig, Chief, Commission Services for his impressive efforts to refurbish the Sybil Brand Conference Room and for his artistic wall arrangement of the Commission's many awards and commendations.

Mr. Romig suggested that Sybil Brand's Sheriff's badge be locked in the Sybil Brand Conference Room's trophy case for safe keeping.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported that the balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$725.96.

STAFF REPORT

Sherry Scates, Commission Staff, reported the following:

- A copy of the County's 2003-2004 Annual Fiscal Report was distributed for the Commissioners' review;
- The Auditor-Controller's request for information was discussed with Commissioners; and given top priority for staff;
- Copies of a February 7th L.A. Times news article regarding President Bush's "sensible approach to gang violence" project was distributed (copy on file). Commissioner Cannella noted that if the President's proposed three-year, \$150-million project is approved, the County should pursue the possibility of receiving a portion of that money to combat the gang problems in Los Angeles.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

FACILITY/GROUP INSPECTION REPORTS

Tana Group Home II- 103#1

Chair Montano and Commissioner Hammargren visited this facility on February 4th. Commissioners noted that even though they had called ahead and made an appointment to inspect this facility, they found no one at home.

During a subsequent inspection of this facility on February 7th,

Commissioners gave a rating of **Needs Improvement**. Areas of concern: no key to food storage; clothes dryer door broken; linen closet door broken; and old inoperable car and rusting file cabinet still need to be removed from the back yard. Commissioners noted that the unsatisfactory conditions reported in their previous inspection reports are being corrected, however, they were concerned to find a gas leak in the kitchen stove, no evacuation plan in place/posted, and no keys available to the first aid kit. Additionally, Commissioners were advised

by the facility staff that they were currently undergoing a Fiscal Audit and were having to “work extra hard to meet the audit conditions”. Commissioners had requested that the Auditor-Controller’s Office perform a Fiscal Audit of the Tana Group Homes I and II because of the unacceptable conditions that they observed during their latest *inspection*. **A re-inspection is scheduled in two months.**

Tana Group Home 1 – 102#3

Chair Montano and Commissioner Hammargren inspected this facility on February 3rd and gave a rating of **Needs Improvement**. Areas of concern: posted materials are 20 years out of date; facility’s interior and exterior need repair; oven needs cleaning; insufficient supply of eating utensils; menu not followed; quick release bars in bedroom #2 are broken; furniture old and worn out; no mattress pads on beds; no life books; fire extinguishers need recharging; facility vehicle needs new tires; and the floor furnace needs repair. Commissioners noted that the unsatisfactory conditions reported in their previous inspection reports are being corrected. **A re-inspection is scheduled in two months.**

Eggleston Youth Center – 32#2

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella inspected this facility on February 3rd and gave a rating of **Satisfactory** with no areas of concern observed or reported.

Eggleston Youth Center – 32#3

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella inspected this facility on February 7th and gave a rating of **Satisfactory** with no areas of concern observed or reported. Commissioners noted that the facility has an attractive, well kept garden and that the staff was very responsive and cooperative.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Montano assigned inspection duties to Commissioners for the following week.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montano adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Scates
Commission Staff